

A circular black ink stamp from the Patent & Trademark Office. The text "PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE" is arranged in a circle around the perimeter. In the center, the date "NOV 08 2000" is stamped. At the top of the circle, the letters "OIP" are visible.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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(1/98)

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

1. 6-62217 discloses the amplitude of the pattern modulated corresponding to the image to which the pattern is to be added.

2. 11-205577 discloses if the image background of an area to which the specific pattern should be added is black or a specific color having high density, the density of the area or its background is reduced.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO-1449 and are in a language other than English.

1. Published Japanese Translation of PCT International Publication for Patent Application No. 9-509795. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 1 of the specification of the above-referenced application.

2. Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. 10-51650. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 1 of the specification of the above-referenced application.

3. Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. 6-113107. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 2 of the specification of the above-referenced application.

4. Japanese Published Unexamined Patent Application No. 4-233677. The relevance of this document is discussed at page 3 of the specification of the above-referenced application.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or

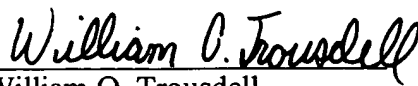
constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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